

CLAIMS

1. An electric field control material including a polymer matrix in which is dispersed a so-called non-linear filler having non-linear electric resistance properties, characterized in that the non-linear filler includes at least  
5 97% by weight of zinc oxide as a homogeneous powder, and less than 3% by weight of at least one metal oxide as traces.

2. The material according to claim 1, characterized in that the non-linear filler includes less than 99.8% by weight  
10 of the zinc oxide as a homogenous powder.

3. The material according to any of claims 1 or 2, characterized in that the grains composing the zinc oxide powder of the non-linear filler have dimensions in majority  
15 less than 50  $\mu\text{m}$ , and preferably less than 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

4. The material according to any of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that each metal oxide is selected from lead oxide, cadmium oxide, iron(III) oxide, copper oxide and  
20 manganese oxide.

5. The material according to any of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the zinc oxide of the non-linear filler is doped with at least one non-metal element.  
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6. The material according to claim 5, characterized in that each non-metal element is sulphur or boron.

7. The material according to any of claims 1 to 6,  
30 characterized in that it includes a so-called linear filler having linear electric resistance properties.

8. The material according to claim 7, characterized in that the volume of the linear filler accounts for less than 25% of the volume of the non-linear filler.

5        9. The material according to any of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that it includes an insulating filler.

10       10. The material according to claims 9, characterized in that the insulating filler accounts for less than 10% by volume of said material.

15       11. The material according to any of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that the non-linear and if necessary the linear filler volume substantially accounts for 5 to 60% of the volume of said material, preferably from 15 to 40% by volume.

20       12. The material according to any of claims 1 to 11, characterized in that the zinc oxide has a direct current resistivity which is less than  $10^9 \Omega.m$  and preferably less than  $10^8 \Omega.m$ .

25       13. A termination (1) for an electric cable (2), characterized in that it includes at least one electric field distributor element (3), consisting of a material according to any of the preceding claims.

30       14. A connecting device for electrical cables, characterized in that it includes at least one electric field distributor element consisting of material according to any of claims 1 to 12.

15. A current limiting device, characterized in that it includes at least one PTC effect element, consisting of a material according to any of claims 1 to 12.

5        16. A power cable, characterized in that it includes at least one electric field distributor element consisting of material according to any of claims 1 to 12.

10       17. Self-regulating heating cable, characterized in that it includes at least one PTC effect heating element consisting of material according to any of claims 1 to 12.